

SB 312 (COSTA)/AB 254 (MACHADO)

(As amended August 3, 1998)

SUMMARY OF PROGRAMS

PURPOSE OF BILL:

To place before the voters on the statewide ballot a general obligation bond measure to finance a variety of projects and programs for safe drinking water, clean water, flood protection, and water supply and reliability.

SUMMARY:

SAFE DRINKING WATER PROGRAM

Appropriates funds to the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to be expended by the Department of Health Services for loans and grants to suppliers for projects needed to meet safe drinking water standards.

Defines "suppliers" to mean any persons, partnership, corporation, association, public agency, or other entity, including any Indian tribe having a federally recognized governing body, that owns or operates a public water system.

FLOOD PROTECTION PROGRAM

Levee Waterworks Improvement Program

Provides funds to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for the following types of flood protections projects or for grants to local agencies for those projects:

- Weirs, bypasses, levees, modifications to dams, spillways and other waterworks.
- Installation of tailwater suppression systems, detention basins, relief wells, test wells, flood warning systems, and telemetry devices, and the acquisition and development of well fields.
- The relocation or flood proofing of structures within floodplains, implementation of watershed pilot projects, and other structural or nonstructural improvements to increase flood protection.
- The construction or improvement of highways or roads that are designated flood emergency evacuation routes or that provide access to levees for emergency work or flood fights, or for projects that protect those roads or highways.

Requires specified criteria to be considered in prioritizing projects, such as increased protection for metropolitan areas, the local community is a small community with a financial hardship, and the local community experiences repetitive flood loss.

Flood Easement Program

Provides funds to DWR to acquire flood easements. Requires DWR to consult with the Wildlife Conservation Board, as appropriate, on the establishment of multiple benefit flood easements projects.

Delta Levee Rehabilitation Program

Provides funds to DWR for local assistance under the delta levee maintenance subventions program and for special flood protection projects on specified Delta islands.

Urban Stream Restoration Program

Provides funds to DWR for grants to local agencies, community conservation corps, and nonprofit organizations for small flood protection and erosion control projects.

San Joaquin River Flood Prevention Program

Provides funds to DWR for projects to prevent flooding on the lower San Joaquin River or for grants for those projects.

Arroyo Pasajero Watershed Program

Makes legislative findings regarding the 1995 Interstate Highway 5 bridge failure in 1995 and the resulting loss of lives, and the damage to federal, state, and local facilities, including the California Aqueduct and of the statewide interest in undertaking projects to eliminate flooding in the watershed.

Provides funds to DWR for projects to prevent future flooding in the watershed, or for grants to local agencies for those purposes.

Capitol Area Flood Protection

Makes funds available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, to pay the state's share of the nonfederal costs of flood control projects authorized by Congress for modifications to Folsom Dam and for levee and channel improvements, sheetpile flood walls, and related flood protection measures in Sacramento County, and for improvements to the Yolo Bypass in Yolo County and Solano County.

Provides that if the federal government does not approve these flood control projects by January 1, 2008, the funds may be reallocated by the Legislature to other accounts in this bill.

RIVER CORRIDOR PROGRAM

River Management Program

Provides funds to the Wildlife Conservation Board for acquisition from willing sellers of easements to provide enhanced wildlife benefits within flood easements established by DWR and to acquire from willing sellers interests in land along rivers and streams that provide both flood management and wildlife benefits. Authorizes grants to local agencies for these purposes.

Watershed Program

Provides funds to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for grants to local public agencies or local watershed organizations for development of local watershed management plans and for projects to reduce chronic flooding problems and for other flood protection, erosion control, and water quality projects within watersheds.

Earmarks an unspecified amount of these funds for grants to small communities with less than 10,000 population, with a financial hardship as determined by the board.

Agricultural Land Stewardship Program

Provides funds to the Department of Conservation to preserve flood protection corridors by approving grants to local agencies for the acquisition from willing sellers of flood easements and agricultural conservation easements pursuant to the Agricultural Land Stewardship Program Act of 1995.

Coastal Rivers and Streams

Provides funds to the State Coastal Conservancy for projects in coastal wetlands, watersheds, rivers and streams that prevent or reduce flood or storm damage or for projects that reduce, control, or eliminate the adverse impacts of floods.

Santa Monica Mountains Watershed

Provides funds to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for projects in watersheds, rivers, and streams that include acquisition, restoration, enhancement, or protection of real property to prevent or reduce flood or storm damage.

River Protection Program

Provides funds, available for appropriation by the Legislature, for the acquisition and restoration of riparian habitat, riverine aquatic habitat, and other lands in close proximity to rivers and streams and for river and stream trail projects.

Lake Elsinore Watershed

Provides funds to the SWRCB to rehabilitate and improve the Lake Elsinore watershed through watershed management and flood control projects that preserve agricultural land, protect wildlife habitat, and protect and enhance recreational resources.

Flood Control Subventions

Provides funds to DWR to pay the state's share of the nonfederal costs of flood control projects authorized by Congress and the State.

CLEAN WATER, WATER CONSERVATION, AND WATER RECYCLING

Nonpoint Source Control

Provides funds to SWRCB for grants to local public agencies or nonprofit organizations for nonpoint source pollution control projects.

Clean Water Program

Authorizes funds to SWRCB for loans and grants for wastewater treatment facilities and other projects needed to meet Clean Water Act requirements. Earmarks an unspecified amount for grants to low income communities with a population of 10,000 or less.

Water Recycling

Provides funds to SWRCB for loans and grants to local public agencies for construction of cost-effective water recycling projects.

Water Conservation

Provides funds to DWR for loans to local agencies for construction of voluntary, cost-effective water conservation projects. Earmarks an unspecified amount for loans and grants to economically disadvantaged communities.

Lake Tahoe Water Quality

Provides funds to the California Tahoe Conservancy, or for grants to public agencies for land acquisition and improvement programs that control soil erosion, restore wetland and stream zones, restore watersheds, provide public access and recreation, or enhance and restore wildlife areas.

Santa Monica Bay Restoration

Provides funds to the SWRCB for grants to local public agencies to implement stormwater and urban runoff pollution prevention programs and other priority actions specified in the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan.

WATER SUPPLY, RELIABILITY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM

Local Conjunctive Use Program

Makes funds available to DWR for loans and grants to local public agencies for construction of facilities for the conjunctive use of surface and groundwater supplies, local pilot projects, and other facilities to implement conjunctive use plans or projects. Requires all projects to be sponsored by a local public agency.

Upstream Reservoir Reoperation and Analysis

Makes legislative findings that the reoperation of existing onstream and upstream storage facilities may improve local and systemwide water supplies and water efficiency and facilitate the restoration of riparian and terrestrial habitats.

Makes funds available to the Secretary of the Resources Agency for grants to local public agencies and nonprofit organizations for feasibility studies and advance planning and analysis of the potential for reoperation of existing water storage facilities.

Bay-Delta Multipurpose Conjunctive Use Program

Makes funds available for multipurpose projects in the Delta and the watershed of the Delta that are identified as CALFED Stage 1 actions and that provide at least two of the following benefits: improved water supply reliability; improved water quality; improved fish habitat or fish protection; or flood protection.

Limits projects to those that do any of the following:

- Constructs fish screen facilities.
- Improves the south delta through levee setbacks or water control structures or dredging designed to provide water supply reliability, water quality, water level, or ecosystem benefits.
- Improves the central or north delta channels by undertaking measures such as levee setbacks, dredging, or floodplain storage designed to improve water supply reliability or water quality, or to provide flood control or ecosystem benefits.
- Significantly reduces pollution in the delta by undertaking projects such as the North Bay Aqueduct water quality improvement program.
- Constructs State Water Project and Central Valley Project connections such as a connection between Clifton Court Forebay and the Tracy Pumping Plant intake or a connection between the California Aqueduct and the Delta Mendota Canal to provide increased water quality, water supply reliability, and fishery benefits.

Specifically excludes from funding any of the following types of projects:

- Any surface water storage facilities.
- The acquisition of permits or rights of way for, or the construction of, any peripheral canal, isolated water transfer facility, or dual delta conveyance facility, including any configuration or portion of that canal or those facilities, in the northern or southern delta that is described in Alternative 2 or Alternative 3 in the CALFED EIR/EIS.

- Facilities for the direct discharge of agricultural drainage water to the bay-delta or the ocean.

Colorado River Management Program

Makes funds available to DWR for programs or projects necessary to implement the "California 4.4 Plan" as adopted by the Colorado River Board of California on or after August 1, 1998, and for projects that benefit the Salton Sea, or for grants to local agencies for those purposes.